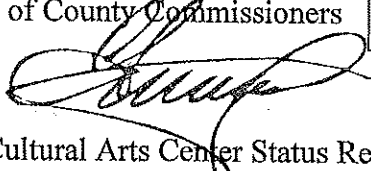


Memorandum



Date: March 11, 2013

To: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 

Subject: South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center Status Report

CRC

Agenda Item No. 7(E)

The second season of the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (SMDCAC) commenced on October 1, 2012. For the four month period following the start of season two, SMDCAC held 62 events among the three performance venues (Mainstage, Black Box and Lab Theater) hosting over 18,000 patrons and guests. The Center continues to emphasize its goals of presenting artistically excellent work and developing strong community outreach components in everything that it does. To date ticket sales have more than doubled from last season.

For the month of February, SMDCAC presented an exciting and diverse array of artists on the mainstage. The Actors' Gang, under the artistic direction of actor and director Tim Robbins (*Bull Durham*, *Shawshank Redemption*) traveled from Los Angeles to perform *Tartuffe*, the classic comedy by Molière (February 8 and 9). Also showing in February were Haitian American musician Daniel Bernard Roumain performing with members of the Detroit-based Sphinx Symphony Orchestra and the Harlem Chamber Players (February 16) and The Birdland Big Band, one of the top jazz groups from New York (February 17).

Renting the facility in February was the All Kids Included Initiative with a workshop (February 1), Miami Symphony Orchestra with a Valentine's Day-themed concert (February 10), The Nutmeg Conservatory with a rehearsal (February 17), GableStage with a production of Tarell McCraney's adaptation of *Hamlet* (February 19-23) and Miami-Dade County Black Affairs Advisory Board with a concert *Gospel Explosion* (February 24).

Also in February the SMDCAC Cabaret Series featured a Tango music show by Latin musician Pedro Alfonso (February 1 and 2) and a flamenco and jazz fusion performance by Siempre Flamenco (February 22-24).

Community education and outreach FREE workshops and classes in February included a lecture demonstration with Siempre Flamenco for the Girl Scouts of Tropical South Florida (February 2). A series of lecture demonstrations with Daniel Bernard Roumain took place with Zora Neale Hurston Elementary and North Miami Senior High Adult Education Program (February 13), Miami String Project and Coral Reef Montessori Academy (February 14) and Greater Miami Youth Symphony and Goulds Elementary (February 15). The Antiheros Project also held two intensive theater movement workshops for children (February 16).

Coming in March on the SMDCAC mainstage is a non-stop schedule of big name national and local artistic groups performing popular shows: Latin music superstar and NEA Jazz Master Eddie Palmieri and his Latin Jazz Band (March 9); The New York Broadway Touring Production of *A Chorus Line* (March 17); and the hit of the world music scene, Red Baraat with opening act the Miami-based Spam Allstars (March 23).

Rentals during the month of March include: Miami Youth Ballet with their children's production of *Carnival of the Animals* (March 6); Waving Hands Sign Collective (March 9-12); Miami-Dade County Public Schools Superintendent's Dance Program (March 12) and Calvary Chapel's Easter Concert (March 31).

In March SMDCAC's Cabaret Series in the Black Box Theater features Pedro Alfonso and Friends with *Violin and Comedy* (March 1 and 2) and The District Stage Company with *Broadway Unplugged* (March 29 and 30). Also performing in the intimate Lab Theater will be The O Dance Company's production of *Romeo and Juliet* (March 15-17).

Community education and outreach efforts slated for March include FREE classes for advanced dancers with O Dance (March 9 and 16) and FREE lecture demonstrations for school aged children with New World Symphony Chamber Music Group (March 5 and 12).

SMDCAC was in the news with a recent article in *The Miami Herald* by Fernando Gonzalez highlighting performances during the Cabaret Series of renowned jazz artist Rene Marie <http://www.miami.com/ren-marie-and-her-trio-article>. Rene Marie was also featured on WLRN radio's Jazz With Tracy Fields show and WDNA jazz radio station. In addition, a recent performance by Sweet Honey In The Rock was highlighted on WLRN radio's Folk And Acoustic show with Michael Stock.

For a complete listing of upcoming events, please visit the Center's website, www.smdcac.org.

BACKGROUND

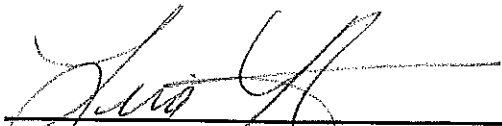
The South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center is located on S.W. 211 Street in Cutler Bay and is a multidisciplinary arts center designed to showcase the performing arts. The design team was led by architectural and engineering firm Arquitectonica International, Inc, and also included: theater consultant Fisher Dachs Associates, Inc.; acoustical and sound and communications consultant Artec Consultants, Inc.; and arts management consultant AMS Planning & Research Corp.

The Center's 966-seat state-of-the-art Theater Building includes a fly tower, orchestra pit, front of house spaces (box office, lobby, restrooms, concessions, etc.), back of house support spaces (dressing rooms, storage and work areas, administrative offices, etc.) and a multi-purpose rehearsal space. The separate Activities Building of the Center houses an informal performance space, and smaller multi-purpose spaces for lectures, classes, or community

gatherings. The Center's two buildings are joined by an outdoor promenade leading to a gently-sloping lawn for outdoor concerts and festivals along the Black Creek Canal.


Through Miami-Dade County's Art in Public Places Program, the Center has major public art works created by Miami artist Robert Chambers. An innovative light piece illuminates the translucent inner lobby wall with changing light designs created by computer-programmed LED fixtures. In addition, the lobby features two marble sculptures also created by Robert Chambers.

This season Mercedes-Benz of Cutler Bay has generously sponsored the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center's Cabaret Series.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa M. Martinez', is written over a horizontal line.

Lisa M. Martinez, Senior Advisor, Office of the Mayor

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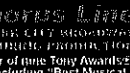


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